MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Shelby Missionary Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Liberty Church, Shelby County, Alabama,

SEPTEMBER 6 AND 7, 1888.

OFFICERS.

W. C. Cleveland ..... Moderator.
C. W. O'Hara ..... Clerk.
H. C. Reynolds ..... Treasurer.

The next session will be held with Dogwood Grove Church, commencing on Wednesday after the first Sabbath in September, 1889.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
THE BAPTIST JOB PRINTING COMPANY.
1888.

ORDER OF BUSINESS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1. Devotional Exercises.
2. Read Letters from Churches.
3. Elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
4. Invite visiting Ministers to seats.
5. Invite Churches to join the Associati n.
6. Appoint Committee on Devotion.
7. Appoint Committee on Finance.
8. Appoint Committee on Documents.
9. Inquire whether the Standing Committees appointed at the last session are present or not; if not, fill vacancies.
10. Call for Correspondence.
11. Return Correspondence—To Canaan, Cahaba Valley, Coosa River and Mulberry Associations.
12. Miscellaneous Business.
13. Adjourn.

SECOND DAY.

14. Devotional Exercises
15. Read the Minutes of the first day and call the roll.
16. Report on Family Religion.
17. Education.
18. Ministerial Education.
19. Periodicals.
20. Missions, State, Home and Foreign.
21. Aged and Infirm Ministers.
22. Temperance.
23. Sabbath Schools.
24. Documents.
25. Finance.
26. Treasurer.
27. Appoint Time and Place for next session.
28. Appoint Standing Committees to report at next session—
    On Family Religion.
    Education.
    Ministerial Education.
    Missions.
    Aged and Infirm Ministers.
    Temperance.
    Periodicals.
29. Appoint some one to preach the Introductory Sermon.
30. Appoint Delegates to State Convention.
31. Order Clerk's salary paid and 500 Minutes printed.
32. Miscellaneous Business
33. Adjourn.

MINUTES.

The Shelby Association met with Liberty church on Wednesday, the 6th day of September, 1888.

F. M. Woods, who was appointed at our last session to preach the introductory sermon, being absent, and W. D. Hubbard, the alternate, being unwell, preaching was dispensed with and the Association proceeded to business.

W. C. Cleveland, former Moderator in the chair, read the 110th Psalm. Prayer by E. B. Teague.

Appointed H. C. Taul and W. D. Hubbard to read.

Letters from the churches were read and the names of the messeng rs enrolled, as follows:

Brierfield—R. S. Young and E. M. Crider.
Cahaba Valley—Letter and funds.
Calera—J. C. McElroy.
Center Hill—J. D. Carter.
Dogwood Grove—Wm. Lovelady, Columbus Harper, L. F. Lucus and R. E. Woolley.
Enon—Not represented.
Montevallo—W. C. Cleveland, H. C. Reynolds, R. W. Nolen and J. D. McMath.
Mar's Hill—Not represented.
Macedonia—A. J. Hatcher and E. G. Walker, jr.
New Antioch—Not represented.
Six Mile—R. H. Pratt and E. L. Wells.
Helena—H. C. Taul, H. W. Bowers and W. D. Hubbard.
Bethesda—C. W. O'Hara, W. E. Riddle and M. E. B Jones.
Columbiana—Geo. T. Lee, J. L. Peters and A P. Longshore.
Hopewell—Not represent d.
Liberty—J. D Martin, J. F. Crane, S. P. Gilbert, W. C. Wilder, R. J. Seale and W. J Jackson.
Mt. Calvary—N. Thomas, G. W. Stone and J. L. Mooney.
Rocky Ridge—J. R. Davis, J. H. Davis and Clement Davis.
Summer Hill—L. Q. Gould, W. M. Armstrong.
Florence—J. M. Crenshaw, John F. McDonald and W. W. Kirkland.
Kingdom - J. F. Parker and J. L. Perry.
Mt Carmel—J. W. Brasher, Columbus Gardner and J. W. Dodson.

The former Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer were re-elected by acclamation.

Invited visiting ministers to seats.

Invited new churches to join the Association ; whereupon T. B. Dison, J. W. Arnold and Wilby Jones presented a letter from Bethlehem church. The church being found orthodox, was re-

ceived, the Moderator extending to the messengers the hand of fellowship.

Appointed committees :

On Devotion—Pastor and messengers of Liberty church.
On Finance—J. K. Milner, J. W. Dodson and L. Q. Gould.
On Documents—Geo. T. Lee, J. W. Arnold and W. C. Wilder.
On Nominations—R. H Pratt, J. D. McMath and A. P. Longshore.

Filled vacancies on standing committees :

On Family Religion—J. M. Crenshaw.
On Education—Nathan Thomas and W. E. Riddle.
On Missions—H. W. Bowers and Robert Woolley.
On Temperance—J. R . Davis.
On Perio icals—W. D. Hubbard and W. M. Armstrong.
On Sunday Schools—A. P. Longshore, A. F. Carden and J. W. Dodson.

Appointed a committee on the demise of Elder J. P. Holcombe deceased—E. B. Teague, H. C Taul and M. E. B. Jones.

Called for correspondence. Responses :

From Canaan—E. B. Teague.
From Cahaba Valley—J. H. R. Carden.
From Coosa River—J. R. Ray.

Returned correspondence:

To the Coosa River—W. C. Cleveland, C. W. O'Hara and J. D. McMath.
To the Mulberry—R. H. Pratt, E. L. Wells and E. M. Crider.

On motion, ordered that there be three committees appointed on missions ; one on State Missions, one on Home Missions, and one on Foreign Missions, to report at our next session.

The committee appointed at our last session to revise the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Declaration of Faith, reported, and the same was adopted, and ordered to be printed with the minutes.

Fix the hours of meeting and adjourning; morning sessions, 9 to 12:30 ; afternoon sessions, 1:30 to 4:30.

Prayer by Geo. T. Lee. Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by J. F. Parker.

Report on Family Religion was read. Discussion by H. C. Taul, C. W. O'Hara, J. M. McCord and W. C. Cleveland.

Report adopted.

REPORT ON FAMILY RELIGION.

We, your committee to whom was referred the subject of family religion, beg leave to submit the following report: We recommend

that it receive more earnest consideration than has been given hitherto. We greatly fear that the exhortation given to train up children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, has not been observed by Christian parents as it should have been.

We recommend daily reading of the Scriptures in the family. We recommend Christian consistency in the home.

Respectfully submitted,

H. C. Taul, Ch'n.

Report on Temperance was read. Discussed by E. A. Teague. Amended by J. C. McElroy. Report as amended. Adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to submit the following report:

We have cause to rejoice that temperance is still gaining ground in our denomination and among professed Christians of all denominations, and that the national government is being agitated by temperance reforms.

We therefore urgently recommend that all members of this Association do all things consistent in their power to extricate themselves, their families, and neighbors, from the bondage of the liquor traffic, with all its evil influences of destruction of morals, Christianity, and all religious influences to the destruction of soul and body.

Respectfully submitted,

T. B. Dison, Ch'n.

AMENDMENT.

Resolved, By this Association that we request our State senator from this district and our representative from this county, to use their entire effort to prevent the return of the liquor traffic to any portion of this county where it has been legislated or voted out.

Report on Education was read and, after some amendments were offered and considerable discussion, was re-committed.

Report on Sunday Schools was read, and, after some amendments offered and discussion, was adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We are proud to state that most of our churches have Sunday Schools, and would be glad to see all churches supplied with this great aid to the Christian work.

We believe that the Sunday School can be made a wonderful help to the cause of missions. And we recommend that a system of giving be organized in each school. We urge upon churches to maintain schools all the year, and establish mission schools in communities adjacent to the church where they can be held.

We recommend to the use of schools the literature of the American Baptist Publication Society, as being the best and cheapest published by the denomination. We recommend further, that each school, as far as in its power, purchase libraries of good books for the use of schools.

We also recommend that the literature be purchased through W. B. Crumpton, Marion, Alabama, as it will cost the schools no more and will add something to the Baptist Book Depository.

AMENDMENT.

Resolved, That the churches be requested to send up full statistics of their schools in their letters giving the number of officers and teachers, and superintendent's name.

A. P. LONGSHORE, Ch'n.

Report of the Executive Committee was read and laid on the table until to-morrow, 10 o'clock.

Report on Periodicals was read and discussed by J. M. McCord and J. K. Milner. Adopted.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

We, your committee to whom was referred the subject of Periodicals, beg leave to submit the following report: We think this is a matter of great importance. In the proper raising and training of our families, nothing is of more vital consequence than the selection of literature to be used by them. The fact that so many of our secular papers, of the present day, contain so much that is obscene and vile, should make us more than ever careful in this respect. We therefore, recommend to this body the abolishing, as far as expedient, of papers containing such articles; and recommend the reading of the ALABAMA BAPTIST, Home and Foreign Journal, and other religious papers, and for our Sunday Schools the literature of the American Baptist Publication Society. We urge that the Sunday School supplies be obtained through our State Mission Board.

Respectfully submitted,
W. D. HUBBARD.

Prayer by M. E. B. Jones. Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY.

SEPTEMBER, 7th.

Association met. Prayer by W. D. Hubbard. Minutes of previous day were read and approved.

Obituary notice of Elder T. P. Holcombe was read and adopted, and ordered to be printed on a page to itself in the minutes.

OBITUARY.

Since the last meeting of the Association, Rev. T. P. Holcombe, long the Moderator of this body, has passed to his reward above. He was eminently a man of God, of spotless reputation, elevated and tender piety, and zealous devotion to his great work. For the better part of a half century, he had lived and labored in the bounds of this Association, and the monuments of his activity are all around us in the churches founded and built up in this part of the vineyard. If he had a fault it was too much modesty and caution in claiming his own, and urging on his brethren the claims of the cause of Christ at large. Like a shock of ripe corn he has been gathered into the garner above, having made full proof of his ministry here, beyond the allotted three score and ten.

E. B. Teague,
H. C. Taul,
M. E. B. Jones.
Committee.

Report on Education was re-read. W. C. Cleveland addressed the Association with reference to our institutions of learning, especially Howard College. The report was then discussed by E. E. Teague, R. H. Pratt, H C. Taul, J. M. McCord, T. B. Dison, W. D. Hubbard and A. P. Longshore.

Adopted.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your committee on Education submit the following report:

We heartily endorse and recommend to the Baptists of Shelby Association the report adopted by this body at its last meeting. We desire to call special attention to this part of the report: The demand for educated men and women was never greater than now, and while we are considering the mental training we would emphasize the importance of moral training. Since there is a growing interest in common (public) schools, we recommend that christian men and women who have had the advantage of a thorough education be employed to teach in these schools. We are unable to make an intelligent report as to the state and condition of education within our bounds, according to our idea of a report, but believe the good cause is increasing in interest and attracting more attention now than ever before; that the desire of parents to educate their children is greater than ever before; that the desire of young men and young ladies to educate themselves is increasing. Believing, as your committee does, that an education sanctified by divine grace is a power in the work of extending the Redeemer's kingdom on earth, and that the great majority of the people have not the benefit of a collegiate education, it therefore recommends that those in the bounds of the Shelby Association do all in their power to build up and sustain common schools in every community.

Respectfully submitted,

R. H Pratt, Ch'n.

Report of the Executive committee was taken from the table and re-read.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Soon after the meeting of the Association in 1887, the committee met in conference and appointed Rev. T. B. Dison missionary at Gentry's Graveyard and adjacent neighborhoods. After waiting several weeks, Brother Dison found it impracticable to render the service expected, and asked to be relieved. He was relieved.

Rev. George T. Lee was appointed missionary at Shelby Iron Works. After doing some work in the field to which he was appointed, he offered his resignation, which was accepted.

Rev. H. C. Taul was appointed missionary in Cahaba Valley, and has pursued his work diligently and not without hope. He has witnessed seven or eight conversions, and has noticed considerable spiritual advancement. Our missionary is much encouraged and hopeful of great results from the mission in which he is engaged.

Our work in this territory is crippled for the want of church houses at Pelham and Bridgston. Some steps have been taken, and some subscriptions made looking to the building of a house at Pelham. We recommend the continuation of work in this territory.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Received		$125 70
Paid H. C. Taul	$100 00	
Paid Geo. T. Lee	19 25	
Cash on hand	6 45	—$125 70

The Treasurer's report will furnish itemized receipts and disbursments.

Respectfully submitted,
W. C. CLEVELAND, Ch'n.

Discussions by H. C. Taul, J. K. Milner, George T. Lee, T. B. Dison and W. C. Cleveland. Report adopted.

The following pledges were taken for missions in our bounds, to be paid by the 1st of December, 1888:

Cahaba Valley church	$ 10 00
Dogwood Grove church	10 00
Montevallo church	25 00
Macedonia church	5 00
Helena church	5 00
Six Mile church	10 00
Columbiana church	25 00
Florence church	1 00
Rocky Ridge church	5 00
Summer Hill church	10 00
Bethlehem church	5 00
	111 00

Report on missions was read. W. C. Cleveland represented the State Board; J. M. McCord represented the Home Board; C. W. O'Hara represented the Foreign Board.

Other discussions by W. W. Kirkland, E. B. Teague and H. C. Taul. Report adopted.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

The commission under which the churches of Christ act requires them to preach the Gospel to every individual on the face of the earth. No one can be a true missionary who bounds the field of christian activity by anything else than the uttermost part of the earth.

The spirit of missions is a spirit that is in the heart of every young convert, and for the development of that spirit the church of Christ has been established in the world.

It is gratifying to the friends of Christ to know that much is being accomplished in the various mission fields, but the demand is still great. The perishing condition of men and women at home and in foreign fields is enough to prompt us to greater activity in missionary work.

In order to combine strength and thus carry the word more successfully to the destitute, the denomination has established several Boards through which it engages in this work.

1. The State Mission Board, located at Selma, has charge of the mission work in Alabama. The object of this Board is to supply destitute places in the State, and also to assist weak churches in sustain-

ing pastors. The thirteenth annual report made by the Secretary of this Board at this last convention, shows that there were seventy-six missionaries employed for all, or a part, of their time. We recommend that all the pastors and churches in the Association give this Board their hearty co-operation by remembering the work in their prayers, and by sending liberal contributions to its Corresponding Secretary.

2. The Home Mission Board, located at Atlanta, Ga., has charge of work in the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention. Its mission stations extend from the District of Columbia to Texas, besides work in the Indian Territory and on the Island of Cuba.

During the last conventional year there were in the employment of this Board 287 missionaries. The report of the labors of these brethren is very encouraging, especially in Cuba. During the short period of little more than two years much has been accomplished for Christ on that island. As we seek the glory of our Lord, in the salvation of souls, let us unite with others in sustaining this Board in its work.

3. The Foreign Mission Board, located at Richmond, Va., has charge of all the work in foreign fields. Reports from these fields show that the work is encouraging. Christ is being confessed among all nations. The condition of 850,000,000 souls that areyet in heathen darkness calls for liberal contributions on our part, and earnest prayer for the success of the work there. Brethren, have we done what we could in this work? Let the past answer this question, and let us, during the coming year, do more than we have ever done, by paying our part of what is asked for, from the State.

Contributions for all the Boards can be sent to W. B. Crumpton, Corresponding Secretary State Mission Board, Marion, Ala.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. McCord, Ch'n.

The messengers from the churches agreed to endeavor to raise the amount asked for last year, for the various objects fostered by the denomination, which is twenty-five cents per member. Prayer by James D. Martin. Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association met. Prayer by W. W. Kirkland.

Report on aged and infirm ministers was read and discussed by J. C. McElroy, H. C. Taul, E. M. Crider, J. D. Martin, J. M. Crenshaw and A. P. Longshore. Report adopted.

REPORT ON AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

We your committ on aged and infirm ministers submit this, our report:

Upon investigation we find that there are ministers in the bounds of this Association who would reasonably be classed under this report

We therefore recommend that this Association request the churches to take collections at least one Sabbath in each quarter for this purpose, sending amounts collected to the treasurer of the Association, who will pay said amounts to the beneficiaries of this fund, taking vouchers for the same, and also, that Revs. E. B Teague, J. W. Wood and W. W. Armstrong be adopted by this body as beneficiaries.

This committee also especially recommends earnest co-operation of the pastors and deacons of the churches in collecting funds

for this purpose, believing, as we do, that there is no duty more incumbent on us than of aiding those who have worn themselves out in the service of the Lord and his people.

AMENDMENT. That the amount received and paid out by the treasurer be reported to the State Mission Board

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. MCELROY, Ch'n.

Report on Ministerial Education was read and discussed by E. B. Teague, H. C. Taul, C. W. O'Hara, A. P. Longshore and J. C. McElroy, and, after several amendments, was offered and lost. The report was re-committed.

Took the following pledges for Ministerial Education, to be paid by the 1st of February, 188_:

Helena church	$ 10 00
Cahaba Valley church	5 00
Dogwood Grove church	10 00
Montevallo church	25 00
Mar's Hill church	10 00
Six Mile church	15 00
Bethesda church	5 00
Columbiana church	10 00
Liberty church, paid	4 00
E. G. Walker	1 00
J. F. Parker	1 00
J. L. Perry	1 00
Total	$ 97 00

Report of committee on Finance was read and adopted:

We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to report: That of the amount contributed for the various objects as shown by the financial exhibit, we have received:

DR.

For minutes and Associational purposes	$ 39 80
" Foreign Missions	3 50
" State Missions	50
Total	$ 43 80

CR.

By amount paid Treasurer	$ 43 80

Respectfully submitted,

J. K. MILNER,
L. Q. GOULD,
J. W. DODSON,
Committee

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

W. C. Cleveland	Montevallo, Ala.
J. M. McCord	Calera, "
T. B. Dison	Montevallo, "
I. N. Walker	" "
C. F. Randle	" "
N. T. Lucus	" "
N. J. Jarvis	" "
F. M. Woods	" "

H. C. Taul ..... Helena, Ala.
*W. D. Hubbard..... " "
M. E. B. Jones ..... Wilsonville, "
W. W. Armstrong..... " "
J. C. Lyon ..... " "
J. F. Parker..... " "
J. D. Martin. ..... Weldon, "
E. B. Teague ..... Columbiana, "
Geo. T. Lee..... " "
J. W. Wood ..... " "
C. W. O'Hara. ..... " "
W. W. Kirkland. ..... Wilsonville, "

*W. D Hubbard was ordained by Helena church during the past year.

Report of the committee on Ministerial Education was re-read, discussed by W. C Cleveland, and adopted

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee to whom has been referred the subject of Ministerial Education, beg leave to make the following report:

That in our opinion, this subject should receive the earnest and prayerful consideration of this body. The increased facilities for the education of the masses of our people, together with the rapid settlement of our State, with a thinking and enterprising class of citizens, demands that our pulpits be filled with an intelligent and well instructed ministry. The recent State Convention fixed the location of Howard College at East Lake permanently, and it now affords great advantages for the development of the talents of theological students. The rapid influx of population into the mining district and especially in and around Birmingham opens a wide field for the ministry, and one in which our theological students can exercise every Sunday, and doubtless much good can and will be accomplished. There has been for the past year forty-four theological students from the state studying for the ministry. Twenty-six of these were at Howard College, nineteen of whom were aided by the Board. Thirteen were at the Theological Seminary, five of whom were aided by the Board

Your committee further recommend the continuance of aid to our former beneficiary, Brother W. D. Hubbard.

And in our opinion the utmost care should be exercised in selecting those to whom we propose extending aid while studying for the ministry, and we recommend that the Board aid those only who have the Bible qualification, as to piety and intellectual endowments

And we further recommend that a Theological chair be established at Howard College.

G. T. Lee, Ch'n.
J. L. Peters,
J. K. Milner.

Appointed standing committees.

On Family Religion—M. E B. Jones, J. C. Lyon and J. F. Parker.

On Education—J. C Jones, P. M. Fancher and E L. Wells.

On Ministerial Education—J. L. Peters, I. B. Dixon and J. D. McMath.

On Periodicals—W. D. Hubbard, R.W. Cobb and John McWhorter.

On Aged and Infirm Ministers—H. C. Reynolds, J. C. McElroy and Nathan Thomas.

On State Missions—H. C. Taul, H. W. Bowers and W C. Denson.

On Home Missions—Geo. T. Lee, A. P. Longshore and J. K. Milner.

On Foreign Missions—J. M. McCord, R. H. Pratt and Jasper Kerbo.

On Temperance—F. M. Woods, R. E. Woolly and W. S. Lovelady.

On Sabbath Schools—T. M. Fancher, J. W. Arnold and Dr. R. Davis.

Report on nominations was read and adopted.

We, your committee on nominations, beg leave to submit the following report:

1. Executive committee for the ensuing year—W. C. Cleveland, D. D, Chairman, H. C. Reynolds, R. W. Nolen, C. W. O'Hara and T. M. Fancher.

2. To preach the introductory sermon at next session—H. C. Taul; alternate, T. B. Dixon.

3 To preach the missionary sermon—W. C. Cleveland; alternate, J. M. McCord.

4. We recommend that the next session of this body be held with Dogwood Grove church, beginning on Wednesday after the 1st Sunday in September, 1889

5. Delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention—W. C. Cleveland, D.D; alternate, J. M. McCord.

Respectfully submitted,
R. H. PRATT, Ch'n.

Report of Treasurer was read and adopted.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

H. C. Reynolds, Treasurer, in account with Shelby Baptist Association;

1887 and '88.	DEBITS	
Sept. 8.	To cash on hand	$ 2 50
" " " "	From Finance Committee	58 40
" " " "	C. W. O'Hara on Ministerial Education	5 00
Oct. 29 " "	Columbiana church, Min "	7 00
Nov. 10. " "	Bethesda church, for Association	2 30
" " " "	" " Foreign Missions.....	1 90
" " " "	" " Cuban "	25
" 30 " "	Summer Hill church, for State "	3 40
Jan. 21 " "	Montevallo church, " " "	12 05
" 30 " "	Summer Hill church " " "	5 95
" " " "	Bethesda " " " "	1 45
" " " "	" " " F'gn "	1 40
Feb'y 20 " "	Dog Wood Grove ch., " State "	5 00
" " " "	Columbiana church " " "	17 80
Apr. 2 " "	Calera " " " "	5 00
" " " "	Six Mile " " " "	7 50
" " " "	" " Sunday-school " " "	2 50
" 21 " "	Montevallo church " " "	12 95
" 25 " "	Bethesda " " " "	1 60
" 25 " "	" " " " "	1 55
" " " "	" " Cuban "	1 00
" " " "	Summer Hill " State "	1 35
" 30 " "	Calera " " "	50
" " " "	Helena " " "	25 00
May 28 " "	Cahaba Val'y " " "	8 00
June 11 " "	Hopewell " " "	2 85
July 27 " "	Bethesda " " "	1 00
" " " "	" " For'g'n "	1 00
Aug., 30 " "	" " Cuban "	1 00

Aug. 30	To cash Summer Hill	" State Missions	$	3 15
Sept. 6	" " Columbiana	" "		10 50
" "	" " "	" Min. Educat'n		2 50
" "	" " Helena church bal on pledges			1 50
" "	" " Liberty "	Min. Education		4 00
" "	" " Mt Calvary church,	State Missions		3 45
" "	" " Calera "	Foreign Mis.,		3 50
" "	" " Kingdom "	State "		50
" "	" " Finance Com., Minutes			39 80
" "	" " Collection for Minutes			7 40
	To'al		$	273 50

CREDITS.

Sept. 8	By cash to Clerk C. W. O'Hara		15 00
" " " " "	" For Minutes		21 35
Oct. 24	" " " Clerk's order Bal on Minutes		4 65
Nov. 30	" " Rev. Geo. T. Lee, Missionary		3 40
Dec. 10	" " *Home Missions		3 43
" "	" " *Foreign "		14 03
" "	" " *Cuban "		2 25
" "	" " *State "		1 63
" "	" " G. W. Ellis Ministerial Education		17 00
Apr. 10	" " G. T Lee Missionary		19 25
" "	" " H. C. Taul " (Helena ch pd.)		25 00
" "	" " "		37 90
Sept. 6	" " " "		33 05
" "	" " " "		4 05
" "	" " On hand to balance		71 51
	Total	$	273 50

*Sent to Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Corresponding Sec'y S. M. B.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SHELBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1. This union of churches shall be known and distinguished by the style and title of the Shelby Baptist Association.

ART. 2. This Association shall be composed of representatives from the churches in union. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, and for every additional hundred members, above the first hundred, shall be entitled to an additional delegate, but in the business of the Association, whenever the delegates from any church of the body shall request it, the vote shall be taken by churches, and in that event each church shall be entitled to three votes.

ART. 3. The delegates when convened shall organize themselves into a deliberative body, by the appointment of a moderator and a clerk. These officers shall be chosen at each annual meeting, and continue in office until new ones are chosen. Should any event transpire so as to prevent an annual meeting of this Association, the moderator shall have power to call a meeting at any time or place, which meeting, when convened, shall have all the rights of a regular annual meeting.

ART. 4. The Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which she is composed. She shall regard them as independent bodies, in all measures of internal government, and shall only act as an advisory council, assuming no authority, except what is expressly delegated to her by the churches, or evidently implied by the very nature of this compact. She, nevertheless, claims authority over

her own members, the delegates of the churches ; and in justice and propriety, must have power to withdraw from, and disown all churches that depart from the principles of this compact, by becoming heterodox in faith, or disorderly in practice.

Her principle business shall be to promote the declarations, glory of God, by extending his kingdom of grace on earth, through the medium of preaching the gospel, and other means in accordance with that gospel ; to cultivate union and fellowship with all the churches of Christ, and especially with those united in this Association.

ART. 5. Newly constituted churches, or churches dismissed from other Associations of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this union, on their sending up their delegates to an annual meeting with a petition ; and by those delegates agreeing to the abstract of principles adopted by this Association.

ART. 6. The churches in this union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association written communications, specifying the names of the delegates, number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored, deceased since the last session, and all other information which the churches may deem of importance, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 7. This Association shall have a fund, supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches, and all moneys thus contributed shall be transmitted from the churches and paid over through the committee on finance to the treasurer, who shall be elected and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association. He shall receive and manage funds according to the order of the Association, and present annually for insertion in the minutes a clear and full statement of all receipts and expenditures.

ART. 8. This Association shall furnish the churches with minutes of every session.

ART. 9 This Association shall take cognizance of no query sent up from the churches, unless they have endeavored to solve the same and have failed, nor of any difficulties between churches, unless they have pursued the directions contained in the 18th chapter of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them ; then the Association shall take such matters into consideration and act upon them at her discretion.

ART. 10. It shall be the duty of the clerk of this Association to keep a regular file of printed minutes of every session of this body, and deliver the same to his successor in office.

ART 11. This Association when convened, shall be governed by proper Rules of Decorum, which she is authorized to form and amend as she deems wise.

ART. 12. This constitution may be altered or amended at a regular meeting of the Association, by a concurring voice of two-thirds of the members present, provided such alteration or amendment be approved by a majority of the churches.

RULES OF ORDER FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE SHELBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1. At every annual meeting of this Association, immediately after the delegates' names are enrolled, the Association shall proceed to choose from among their number a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall hold their offices until their successors are chosen.

2. The moderator shall take the chair every day, at the hour to which the association shall have adjourned on the preceding day ; shall immediately call the members to order, and on the appearance of a quorum, shall cause the minutes of the preceding day to be read.

3. He shall preserve order and decorum ; may speak to points of

order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose ; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association by any two members ; on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless by leave of the Association.

4. He shall rise to put a question, but may state it sitting.

5. Questions shall be distinctly put ; those voting in the affirmative shall say aye, and those of a contrary opinion shall say no. If the moderator doubts, or a division shall be called for, the delegates shall divide; those in the affirmative of the question, shall first rise from their seats, and afterwards those in the negative.

6. The moderator shall appoint all committees, unless otherwise specially directed by the Association.

7. At each annual session the committee on nominations shall name an executive committee of five brethren, three of whom shall form a quorum, authorized to transact any business of the Association during the recess thereof, and shall report their proceedings at each annual meeting of the Association.

8. In all cases of election the moderator may vote ; in other cases he shall not vote unless the body be equally divided ; in that event he shall give the casting vote. He may speak to any question, provided he call some other member to occupy the chair while he is speaking.

9. The clerk shall enroll the names of the delegates, minute the proceedings of the body, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

10. The treasurer shall receive, account for and pay out all moneys belonging to this body, according to the instructions of the Association, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

DECORUM IN DEBATE.

11. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the Association, he shall rise from his seat, and shall respectfully address the moderator, and shall confine himself to the question under debate and avoid personalities.

12. If any member in speaking, or otherwise, transgress the rules of the Association, the moderator shall, or any member may call him to order ; in which case the member so called to order shall immediately sit down, unless permitted to explain ; and the Association shall, if appealed to, decide on the case, but without debate. If there be no appeal, the decision of the chair shall be submitted to ; if the decision be in favor of the member called to order, he shall be at liberty to proceed ; if otherwise, he shall not be permitted to proceed in case any member object, without leave of the Association.

13. When two or more members rise at once, the moderator shall name the member who is first to speak.

14. No member shall speak more than once to the same question without leave of the Association, unless he be the mover, proposer or introducer of the matter pending ; in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

15. Every member who shall be in the house when a question is put, shall give his vote, unless the Association for special reason excuse him.

16. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the chair, or being in writing, it shall be handed to the moderator and read aloud before debated.

17. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the chair or any member desire it.

18. After a motion is stated by the chair or read aloud by the clerk, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of the body, but may be with-

drawn by leave of the Association at any time before a decision or amendment.

19. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be entertained but to adjourn, to lie on the table, for the previous question, to postpone to a day certain, to commit or amend, to postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are arranged; and no motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or to postpone indefinitely being decided, shall again be allowed during the session.

20. A motion to adjourn shall be always in order, except the Association be engaged in voting.

21. A motion to lay on the table shall be taken without debate, and shall always be in order, except a member be speaking, or the body engaged in voting.

22. On a previous question there shall be no debate. All incidental questions of order arising after a motion is made for the previous question, and pending such motion, shall be decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

23. The previous question shall be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present; its effect shall be to put an end to all debate, and bring the Association to a direct vote upon amendments reported by committee, if any; upon pending amendments, and then upon the main question.

24. No motion, or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under color of amendment.

25. When a motion has been once made and carried, in the affirmative or negative, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move a reconsideration thereof, on the same or succeeding business day, and such motion shall take precedence of all other questions, except a motion to adjourn.

26. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave of the moderator, nor leave the meeting without consent of the Association.

27. Should any member of this Association absent himself before the close of the session without permission from the body, he shall be marked in the minutes as absent without leave.

DECLARATION OF FAITH OF THE SHELBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE 1. *Of the Scriptures.*—We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.—2 Tim. 3: 16, 17; 2 Peter 1: 21; John 20: 31; Psalms 33: 4; Romans 2:10; Rev. 20:12; Gal. 1:9; Gal. 1:10.

ART. 2. *Of the True God.*—That there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is Jehovah; the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness; worthy of all confidence and love, revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every Divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.—Gal. 3:20; Psalms 83:18; Col. 1:16; Ex. 15:11; 1 John 5:7; Col. 2:9; Phil. 2:6; John 3:17; Cor. 15:3; Rom. 4:25; Heb. 7:25; John 6:63.

ART. 3. *Of the fall of Man.*—That man was created in a state of holiness under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are sinners, not by constraint but choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and of their own sinful passions; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.—Gen. 1:27; Ec. 7:29; 1 Cor. 15:22; Rom. 3:10; John 8:44; John 3:18; 2 Thess. 1:8; Matt. 22:12; Rom. 1:20.

ART. 4. *Of the Way of Salvation.*—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God who took on him our nature, yet without sin, honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death; being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in Heaven; and uniting in his wonderful person, the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Saviour.—Eph. 2:8; 1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 2:14; 1 John 3:5; Isa. 42:21; Rom. 5:10; Heb. 2:9; Heb. 4:15; Col. 2:9.

ART. 5. *Of Justification.*—That the great gospel blessing, which Christ of his fullness bestows on such as believe in him, is justification, and justification consists in the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through his own redemption and righteousness; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity—Romans 5: 1; Acts 10: 30; John 3: 36; Rom. 3: 25; Titus 3: 5; Rom. 8: 32.

ART. 6. *Of the Freeness of Salvation.*—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by cordial and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ; which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.—Isa. 45: 22; Rev. 22: 17; Acts 17: 30; John 5: 40; Matt. 11: 24.

ART. 7. *Of Grace in Regeneration.*—That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit we bring forth to the glory of God.—John 3 3; Eph. 4:23-24; 1 John 4:7; John 14:23; Eph. 2:10; 1 John 5:18.

ART. 8. *Of God's Purpose of Grace.*—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the gospel; is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that, to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.—2 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 2:10; Eph. 1:4; Rev. 17:24; Rom. 8:33-34; 2 Peter 1:10.

ART. 9. *Of the Perseverance of Saints.*—That such only are real believers as endure to the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial

profession; that a special providence watches over their welfare; and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.—1 John 3 9-10 ; 2 John 2:19 · 1 Cor. 10:13 ; 1 Peter 1:5.

ART. 10. *Harmony of the Law and the Gospel.*—That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government ; that it is holy, just, and good ; that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin ; to deliver them from which, and to restore them, through a media or, to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace, connected with the establishment of the visible church.—Matt. 5:18 ; Rom. 6:12 ; Rom. 8:4 ; Rom. 3:31.

ART. 11. *Of a Gospel Church.*—That a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel ; observing the ordinances of Christ ; governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word ; that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties, are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.—Rom. 1:7 ; Rom. 6:4 ; Gal. 1:1-2 ; Gal. 3:26-27 ; 1 Cor. 13:4-5 ; 1 Tim. 3:1-7 ; 1 Tim. 3:8-9-10 ; Titus 1:7-8-9 ; 1 Tim. 17:18-19.

ART. 12. *Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.*—That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son, and Spirit ; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our *faith* in a crucified and risen Saviour, with its purifying power ; that it is a pre-requisite to the priviliges of a church relation, and to the Lord's Supper ; in which members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ ; preceded always by solemn self examination.—Acts 8:36-38 ; Matt. 28:19 ; Col. 2:12 ; John 3:5 ; Matt. 26:26 ; Acts 20:7 ; 1 Cor. 11:26.

ART. 13. *Of the Christian Sabbath.*—That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath ; and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations by the devout observance of all means of grace, both private and public ; and by preparation for that rest which remaineth for the people of God.—Rev. 1:10 ; Ex. 20:8 ; Acts 20:7 ; Heb, 4:9 ; also verse 11.

ART. 14. *Of Civil Government.*—That civil government is of Divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society ; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and prince of the kings of the earth.—Rom. 13:1 ; 1 Tim. 1:1-2 ; Rom. 13:5 ; Acts 5:29; 1 Tim. 6:15.

15. *Of the Righteous and the Wicked.*—That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked ; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God, are truly righteous in his esteem, while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief, are in his sight wicked and under the curse ; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.—Luke 11:23 ; Rom. 8:9; 1 John 3:10 ; Rom. 3:26 ; 1 Cor. 6:11 ; Luke 13:3 ; John 3:18 ; Rev. 22:11.

ART. 16. *Of the World to Come.*—That the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave for final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.—1 Peter 4: 7; 1 Thess. 4: 16; John 5: 28, 29; Matt. 25: 32; Rev. 20: 13, 14; Gen. 18: 25.

STATISTICS OF SHELBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

	CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P. O.	Membership last Reported.	Inc'se			Dec'se			Sunday Schools.				Sabbath of Preach'g.
							Baptism	Letter.	Restoration.	Letter.	Exclusion.	Death	Present Membership.	Offic'rs & Tch'rs	Pupils.	Superintendent.	
First District.	Brierfield	Bibb		R S Young	Brierfield	50	..	3	..	5	1	1	39	9	30	E M Crider	..
	Cahaba Valley	"	Wm J Ruddick	E B McGuire	Brierfield	88	..	..	..	2	2	3	81	7	75	‡I M Fancher	..
	Calera	Shelby	J M McCord		Calera	61	1	8	..	12	..	1	51	6	45	H C Moss	3
	Center Hill	"	N L Lucus	J W Whitfield	Calera	37	..	..	2	6	..	..	27	..	..	..	4
	Dogwood Grove	"	F M Woods	R E Wooley	Montevallo	117	7	6	1	4	5	1	132	6	50	W S Lovelady	2
	Enon	"				42	..	..	..	..	..	..	42	..	..	..	..
	Montevallo	"	W C Cleveland	Thos J Williams	Montevallo	71	..	7	1	6	..	1	72	10	75	E W North	..
	Mar's Hill	"				38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Macedonia	"	E G Walker	J G Harris	Montevallo	52	..	..	..	4	1	2	45	..	..	..	1
	Helena	"	H C Taul	H W Bowers	Helena	47	3	1	1	..	12	2	38	3	24	R W Cobb	2
	New Antioch	"				42	..	..	..	..	..	..	42	..	..	..	..
	Six Mile	Bibb	A E Burns	W E Fancher	Six Mile	138	2	2	..	16	1	3	122	14	78	R H Pratt	1
Second District.	Bethesda	Shelby	J C Lyon	R A O'Hara	Wilsonville	107	8	9	2	9	1	..	114	9	75	W A Dunnam	1
	Columbiana	"	Geo T Lee	J L Peters	Columbiana	60	..	2	..	3	1	..	58	7	43	W D Lovett	2
	Florence	"	W W Kirkland	J M Crenshaw	Lewis	9	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	3	17	J M Viske	..
	Hopewell	"				40	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	..	..	..	..
	Kingdom	"		S H Perry	Columbiana	19	4	10	..	8	1	2	25	5	40	‡D Connell	..
	Liberty	"	J D Martin	A F Carden	Weldon	102	3	4	..	5	1	1	95	..	..	J F Crane	1
	Mt Calvary	"	M E B Jones	N Thomas	Columbiana	50	3	2	..	..	1	..	56	3	40	W R Moore	2
	Mt Carmel	"	J H R Carden	J W Dodson	Weldon	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	11	..	..	..	4
	Rocky Ridge	"	J C Lyon	Printice Murphy	Columbiana	28	1	..	..	..	..	..	32	..	..	..	4
	Summer Hill	"	C W O'Hara	L Q Gould	Columbiana	70	..	2	..	10	1	1	60	5	35	W F Bridges	4
	§Bethlehem	"	T B Dison	J W Arnold	Montevallo	..	8	1	..	..	..	..	28	..	60	Willy Jones	..
						1268	42	58	9	95	28	18	1200	94	827		..

§Bethlehem was constituted August 19th, 1838, with 19 members. †Helena reports 12 excluded; ten of these were erased.
‡Mission school of Kingdom and Cahaba Valley Churches, J. C. Coats and Henry Whitfield, Superintendents.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF THE SHELBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES.	Cuban Missions.	Foreign Missions.	State Missions.	Church Building (not at home.)	Bible and Colportage Work.	Ministerial Education.	Minutes.	Associational purposes.	Sunday School Expenses.	Value of Church Buildings.	Pastor's Salary.	Church Expenses.
Bethesda	$ 2 00	$ 6 00	$ 6 00	$.....	$.....	$. . .	$ 3 00	$	$12 25	$ 500 00	$ 36 10	$ 1 00
Brierfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 50	.....	21 31	1200 00	102 35	69 86
Columbiana	.....	.....	28 50	.....	.....	9 50	1 50	1 50	.....	1000 00	150 00	25 00
Cahaba Valley	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 50	1 00	....	.....	.....	150 00
Calera	.....	3 50	5 50	.....	.....	5 00	1 50	.50	.....	.....	128 00	504 00
Center Hill	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.45	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dogwood Grove	.....	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	3 25	. ..	8 50	400 00	.....	.....
Enon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Florence	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hopewell	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Helena	.....	.....	25 00	.....	.....	.....	1 50	1 50	7 00	500 00	.....	.....
Kingdom	.....	.....	.50	.....	.....	.....	1 00	....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Liberty	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 00	.....	.....	300 00	34 65	100 00
Mt. Calvary	.....	.....	3 45	.....	.....	.....	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Carmel	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
*Montevallo	6 10	.....	25 00	10 55	10 00	3 10	.....	3 00	.	.....	411 00	167 35
Mar's Hill	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Macedonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.50	1 00	.....	.....	. .....	.....
New Antioch	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rocky Ridge	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
†Six Mile	.....	.....	10 00	.....	.....	15 00	3 00	2 00	.....	3200 00	150 00	.....
Summer's Hill	.....	.....	13 95	.....	.....	.....	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bethlehem	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.50	.50	.....	.....	....	.....
....	$8 10	$9 50	122 90	$10 55	$10 00	$32 50	$28 30	$10 50	$49 06	$7,100 00	$1,012 10	$1,017 21

*Of the amount contributed by Montevallo Church, $35.45 was paid by the Sunday-school, and $10 by the Ladies' Aid Society.
†Of the amount contributed by Six Mile church, $2.50 was paid by the Sunday-school.

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